

Harold Flanagan

By himself

Harold Moffitt Flanagan, son of Arch J. Flanagan and Mattie Gayle Cheek. He was born Oct 19, 1934 in Farmville, Pitt County, NC. Being the third child, he was never as smart as the oldest or as pretty as the 2nd; nor was he the Baby, so he was just drug up instead of raised which made him far more compassionate and caring than the rest of the siblings. He married Alawoise Faye Strickland on Apr 18, 1957 in Franklin County, NC. Harold and Alawoise have 3 sons and a daughter all really fine stock.

Harold grew up in the farming community of Farmville, NC. He lived with his family on a farm near Farmville for six years as a youngster and when they all moved back to Farmville he went too. He went through school in Farmville, graduating from high school in 1953 to the immense relief of the faculty. He went to college at NC State in Raleigh, NC, graduating with a degree in Agronomy in 1957 with honors. Like his father he was always a farmer at heart. He liked to mention that he could milk a cow before the first grade. Harold joined the Boy Scouts at age 12, became an Eagle Scout and has been active in scout work all his life. He was on the swim team at NC State and was placed 6th in the 1500 meters in the ACC in 1955. Other college activities included Alpha Phi Omega, the Boy Scout Service fraternity, which his daughter Gayle joined, making her his fraternity brother.

Harold does not smoke and does not like the idea of smoking but the economy of the area dictated that he grow the weed. In later years he leased the tobacco allotment off the farm, concentrating on other row crops and raising calves for sale to feeders. Also, like his father, he had sideline business interests such as earth moving with heavy equipment, providing a flight strip for small aircraft where Scott towed banners and grazing lagoon sites which became the foundation of the cattle operation. He always has good ideas for projects such as a semi-commercial kitchen and eating facility and a recreational pond. His sons and brother have to be prepared for a wild hair most any time. Mark, one of his sons, who was called on often to help support some technical part of a project said, "It is better to find out what he has decided to do before trying to offer any advice, then match your input to that." If the Lord is willing and allows him to stay past his 3 score years and 10, He hopes to get a gristmill hooked to his water wheel (Only one in the county) and an ice cream churn on the other side of the wheel. At this writing (2006) he is working on a biodiesel generation unit for the farm. You would be amazed at his incredible path machine.

Harold is active in the Farmville First Christian Church as elder, board chairman, Sunday school teacher and other positions. He sings in the choir and played the tuba in the high school band. He probably would have been more active in sports in high school except for a slipped hip, which had to be completely replaced in later years. He was a Rotarian for several years although farming made it hard to attend the meetings. Harold was always a good one to call when the community needed animals and equipment for parades and other celebrations.